

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 69

Introduced by Assembly Member Goldberg

May 12, 2005

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 69—Relative to the Boy Scouts of America.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 69, as introduced, Goldberg. Boy Scouts of America.

This measure would recognize the efforts of Boy Scouts who earn the rank of Eagle Scout and encourage the Boy Scouts of America to accept for membership and leadership positions all qualified boys and men, without discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or religious belief.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Since the founding of the Boy Scouts of America,
2 millions of Boy Scouts have taken the experience of scouting and
3 gone on to contribute great things to society; and
4 WHEREAS, A Boy Scout can be followed, as he is a leader in
5 his troop and community, regardless of the scout's race, color,
6 religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sexual
7 orientation, or disability; and
8 WHEREAS, The list of former Boy Scouts includes diverse
9 role models and leaders; and
10 WHEREAS, A Boy Scout lives honorably, not only because
11 honor is important to him, but because of the significant example
12 he sets for other scouts; and

1 WHEREAS, Loyalty to his troop and brother scouts makes
2 him “pitch-in” and carry his share of the load, recognizing the
3 devotion to his family and the community in which he lives; and

4 WHEREAS, A Boy Scout’s courage means standing up for
5 what he believes in without compromising his own beliefs; and

6 WHEREAS, A Boy Scout looks forward to each day, seeking
7 his share of the world’s work to do; and

8 WHEREAS, Honor, loyalty, and courage are hallmarks of
9 scouts who admirably represent the community, council, and
10 troop in their daily lives; and

11 WHEREAS, A Boy Scout always wears a smile as a constant
12 reminder of cheerfulness; and

13 WHEREAS, A Boy Scout is helpful in service and will always
14 “Be Prepared” to put forth his best; and

15 WHEREAS, The character traits represented by Boy Scouts
16 are symbols present in the Boy Scout badge, worn proudly on the
17 uniform, by youth in this state and across the country; and

18 WHEREAS, It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to
19 serve others by helping to instill values in young people, and in
20 other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices over their
21 lifetime in achieving their full potential; and

22 WHEREAS, The values that the Boy Scouts of America
23 strives to instill are found in the Boy Scout Oath and Law; and

24 WHEREAS, Boy Scouts are required to abide by the Scout
25 Law and Scout Oath, which proudly uses such terms as “honor,”
26 “trustworthy,” and “loyal”; and

27 WHEREAS, Many Boy Scouts have been forced to hide their
28 identity in contradiction to the Scout Mission, Law, and Oath,
29 and Boy Scouts and scout leaders who were open about their
30 sexual orientation have been expelled from scouting; and

31 WHEREAS, The policy of the Boy Scouts of America to bar
32 from membership or leadership positions otherwise qualified
33 individuals solely on the basis of their sexual orientation or
34 religious belief causes harm to the innumerable boys and men
35 such as James Dale who, regardless of their hard work and
36 merits, are denied the opportunity to hold the rank of Eagle Scout
37 or participate in any way in the Boy Scouts of America; and

38 WHEREAS, Many former Boy Scouts have left scouting and
39 formed their own inclusive organization, Scouting for All, in an

1 effort to bring the values of scouting to youth without
2 discrimination; and

3 WHEREAS, The discriminatory policy of the Boy Scouts of
4 America is contrary to the policy of the State of California; and

5 WHEREAS, Other similar organizations such as the Girl
6 Scouts, Camp Fire Boys and Girls, and the Boys and Girls Club
7 serve as role models for the Boy Scouts of America because they
8 do not discriminate against youth and adults; now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
10 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the
11 outstanding efforts of Boy Scouts who, through persistence and
12 hard work, earn the rank of Eagle Scout; and be it further

13 *Resolved,* That the Legislature encourages the Boy Scouts of
14 America to accept for membership and leadership positions,
15 including the rank of Eagle Scout, all qualified boys and men,
16 without discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or
17 religious belief; and be it further

18 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit
19 copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.